

Donnelly (IN) Kline (MN) Petri Wasserman Welch Wolf
Doyle Kosmas Pingree (ME) Schultz Westmoreland Woolsey
Dreier Kratochvil Pitts Waters Wexler Wu
Driehaus Kucinich Platts Watson Whitfield Yarmuth
Duncan Lamborn Poe (TX) Watt Wilson (OH) Young (AK)
Edwards (MD) Lance Polis (CO) Waxman Wilson (SC) Young (FL)
Edwards (TX) Langevin Pomeroy Weiner Wittman
Ehlers Larsen (WA) Posey
Ellison Larson (CT) Price (GA)
Ellsworth Price (NC) Price (NC)
Emerson Putnam
Engel Latta Quigley
Eshoo Lee (CA) Radanovich
Etheridge Lee (NY) Rahall
Fallin Levin Rangel
Farr Lewis (CA) Rehberg
Fattah Linder Reichert
Filner Lipinski Reyes
Flake LoBiondo Richardson
Fleming Lofgren, Zoe Rodriguez
Forbes Lowey Roe (TN)
Fortenberry Lucas Rogers (AL)
Foster Luetkemeyer Rogers (KY)
Foxy Luján Rogers (MI)
Frank (MA) Lummis Rohrabacher
Franks (AZ) Lungren, Daniel Rooney
Frelinghuysen E. Ros-Lehtinen
Fudge Lynch Roskam
Gallegly Maffei Ross
Garrett (NJ) Maloney Rothman (NJ)
Gerlach Manzullo Roybal-Allard
Giffords Marchant Royce
Gingrey (GA) Markey (CO) Rush
Gohmert Markey (MA) Ryan (OH)
Goodlatte Marshall Ryan (WI)
Gordon (TN) Massa Salazar
Granger Matheson Sanchez, Loretta
Graves Matsui Sarbanes
Grayson McCarthy (CA) Scalise
Green, Al McCarthy (NY) Schakowsky
Green, Gene McCaul Schauer
Griffith McClintock Schiff
Grijalva McCollum Schmidt
Guthrie McCotter Schock
Gutierrez McDermott Schrader
Hall (NY) McGovern Schwartz
Hall (TX) McHenry Scott (GA)
Halvorson McHugh Scott (VA)
Hare McIntyre Sensenbrenner
Harman McKeon Serrano
Harper McMahon Sessions
Hastings (FL) McMorris Sestak
Hastings (WA) Rodgers Shadegg
Heinrich McNeerney Shea-Porter
Heller Meek (FL) Sherman
Hensarling Meeks (NY) Shimkus
Herger Melancon Shuler
Herseth Sandlin Mica Shuster
Higgins Michaud Shusterson
Hill Miller (FL) Simpson
Himes Miller (MI) Sires
Hinchey Miller (NC) Skelton
Hinojosa Miller, Gary Slaughter
Hirono Miller, George Smith (NE)
Hodes Minnick Smith (NJ)
Hoekstra Mitchell Smith (TX)
Holden Mollohan Smith (WA)
Holt Moore (KS) Snyder
Honda Moore (WI) Souder
Hoyer Moran (KS) Space
Hunter Moran (VA) Speier
Inglis Murphy (CT) Spratt
Inslee Murphy (NY) Stark
Israel Murphy, Patrick Stearns
Issa Murphy, Tim Stupak
Jackson (IL) Murtha Sutton
Jackson-Lee Myrick Tanner
(TX) Nadler (NY) Tauscher
Jenkins Napolitano Taylor
Johnson (GA) Neal (MA) Teague
Johnson (IL) Neugebauer Terry
Johnson, E. B. Nunes Thompson (CA)
Johnson, Sam Nye Thompson (MS)
Jones Oberstar Thompson (PA)
Jordan (OH) Obey Thornberry
Kagen Olson Tiahrt
Kanjorski Oliver Tiberi
Kaptur Ortiz Tierney
Kildee Pallone Titus
Kilpatrick (MI) Pascrell Tonko
Kilroy Pastor (AZ) Towns
Kind Paul Tsongas
King (IA) Paulsen Turner
King (NY) Payne Upton
Kingston Pence Van Hollen
Kirk Perlmutter Velázquez
Kirkpatrick (AZ) Perriello Visclosky
Kissell Peters Walden
Klein (FL) Peterson Walz
Wamp

NOT VOTING—10

Bono Mack Lewis (GA) Sánchez, Linda
Buyer Loebbsack T.
Gonzalez Mack Sullivan
Kennedy Ruppertsberger

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members have 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1722

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative), the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mrs. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

RECOGNIZING 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 454) recognizing the 25th anniversary of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 454

Whereas an estimated 800,000 children are reported missing each year in the United States;

Whereas 200,000 of that number are abducted by family members, and 58,000 are abducted by non-family members, for which the primary motive is sexual assault;

Whereas each year 115 children are the victims of the most serious abductions, kidnapped by non-family members and either ransomed, murdered, or taken with the intent to keep;

Whereas the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) serves as the national resource center and information clearinghouse for missing and exploited children;

Whereas NCMEC was established by Congress in 1984;

Whereas NCMEC has assisted law enforcement in the recovery of more than 138,500 children;

Whereas NCMEC's Amber Alert program has led to 443 recoveries;

Whereas in 2008, NCMEC helped recover more children than any other year in the organization's 25-year history, raising the recovery rate from 62 percent in 1990 to 97 percent today;

Whereas NCMEC operates the toll-free 24-hour national missing children's hotline, which has handled more than 2,377,000 calls;

Whereas NCMEC provides assistance to families and law enforcement agencies in lo-

cating and recovering missing and exploited children, both nationally and internationally;

Whereas NCMEC offers technical assistance and training to law enforcement in identifying and locating non-compliant sex offenders;

Whereas NCMEC has a team of forensic artists who create age progression photos, which has assisted in the successful recovery of 895 children;

Whereas NCMEC CyberTipline has handled more than 686,000 reports;

Whereas NCMEC's Child Victim Identification Program has reviewed and analyzed 23,000,000 child pornography images and videos, 8,600,000 in 2008 alone;

Whereas NCMEC's sex offender tracking team has already located 402 missing sex offenders;

Whereas NCMEC operates a child victim identification program to assist law enforcement in identifying victims of child pornography;

Whereas NCMEC develops and disseminates programs and information about Internet safety and the prevention of child abduction and sexual exploitation;

Whereas NCMEC facilitates the deployment of the National Emergency Child Locator Center during periods of national disasters; and

Whereas NCMEC deploys Team Adam, a rapid response and support system comprised of retired law enforcement officers, to provide on-site technical assistance to local law enforcement agencies investigating cases of child abduction and sexual exploitation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes the 25th anniversary of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H. Res. 454.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 454, which recognizes the 25th anniversary of the National Center For Missing and Exploited Children. The NCMEC serves as the national resource center for missing and exploited children.

It is estimated that 800,000 children are reported missing every year in the United States. Two hundred thousand of that number are abducted by family members, and 58,000 are abducted by nonfamily members, for which the primary motive is sexual assault. It is with great sadness that this national tragedy continues year after year.

We recognize today the National Center's persistent efforts in reuniting families and stopping the abuse and exploitation of our children. During its

25-year history, the organization has assisted in the recovery of more than 138,000 children. NCMEC's Amber Alert Program alone has led to 443 recoveries. NCMEC's efforts have led to a rise in the recovery rate of missing children from 62 percent in 1990 to 97 percent today.

The organization offers assistance and training to law enforcement around the country in identifying and locating missing and exploited children, as well as non-compliant sex offenders. NCMEC also actively combats children's pornography by reviewing millions of images and videos in a national effort to identify victims of child pornography and the perpetrators behind these heinous crimes.

Madam Speaker, NCMEC acts as the ultimate advocate for our Nation's most vulnerable individuals. The organization sends a message to parents around the country that our Nation will never abandon its search for the thousands of children missing at any given moment. It is important to recognize that for the individuals at the NCMEC, the mission is never quite complete.

□ 1730

On May 25th of 2009, we recognize the 27th National Missing Children's Day. The day marks the anniversary of the disappearance of 6-year-old Etan Patz. For nearly three decades, the search for Etan and many other children has continued as part of the persistent efforts of the NCMEC.

Madam Speaker, once again I express my support for the center, and I thank Representative POE for bringing this resolution to the floor. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, which seeks to pay tribute and recognize the important work of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

I am honored to yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of this important resolution, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE).

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Pennsylvania yielding and the support of the gentleman from New York.

I'm proud to sponsor H. Res. 454, which recognizes the 25th anniversary of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

As founder and co-Chair of the Victims' Rights Caucus, along with my friend from California, Mr. COSTA, I am thankful for the work that the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children does to protect the Nation's children.

At the time the Center was founded 25 years ago, there were little or no resources available to assist law enforcement with the cases of missing children. In fact, there was no way for po-

lice to enter information about missing children into the FBI's national crime computer. Today, thanks to the work of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, this is no longer the case.

Each year, approximately 800,000 American children are reported missing. When a child is missing, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children works tirelessly alongside families and law enforcement agencies in locating, finding, and recovering the children and bringing them home to their parents.

Many people may be familiar with John Walsh from his TV show America's Most Wanted, but they may not realize the tragic events that led to his advocating on behalf of children and his work with America's Most Wanted.

In 1981, Adam Walsh, son of John and Revere Walsh, was abducted from a toy department store in Florida at a shopping mall. Two weeks later, fishermen found Adam's decapitated head. They never found his body. He was 6 years old.

Last year, after 27 years of not knowing who killed their son, police announced that Adam's murderer was a serial killer who had died a decade earlier while serving five life sentences in prison. Ottis Toole was his killer's name, and although we know this knowledge did not take away the Walshes' pain, we hope that it gave them some peace of mind and a sense of justice.

Even during the years of unanswered questions, John Walsh turned his loss into advocating on behalf of children. He helped fight for the passage of the important Federal legislation, such as the Missing Children's Act of 1982 and the Missing Children's Assistance Act of 1984.

The Missing Children's Assistance Act of 1984 established a national resource center and a clearinghouse for missing and exploited children, thus creating the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. President Reagan officially opened the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children on June 13, 1984. Twenty-five years later, we thank John Walsh for his pioneer efforts and recognize the center for their work on behalf of America's children.

We celebrate today that, since 1990, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's recovery rate of missing children has increased from 62 percent to 97 percent. Many children owe their rescue to the center, and many parents are grateful for the return of their kids, thanks to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

This legislation is sponsored by both the Victims' Rights Caucus and the Caucus for Missing and Exploited and Runaway Children. I would like to thank my friend and fellow co-Chair of the Victims' Rights Caucus, JIM COSTA, and the co-Chairs of the Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, JUDY

BIGGERT, BART STUPAK, ZOE LOFGREN and FRANK WOLF.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. TONKO. Does the gentleman from Pennsylvania have any further speakers?

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, yes, I do. I have at least two additional speakers.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I reserve my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE).

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I rise to support this resolution. I think, in recognizing the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children here on its 25th anniversary, it is time for us to reflect on just what a role it played in terms of increasing the recovery rate over time of missing children.

If you think about the last 25 years and the fact that 138,000 missing children have been recovered, returned to their families, but that in the early years that rate ran at 62 percent and now that rate is up to 97 percent, you begin to get an appreciation for just what the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children were able to do for humanity, for these children, for these families.

As mentioned, it was officially opened in June of 1984 by President Ronald Reagan, and since its inception, it has become the leading organization worldwide dealing with the issue of missing and exploited kids.

I've been pleased to support many of the initiatives that it's worked for, including:

The Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children Registration Act, which was in 1994, and it mandated that sex offender registries be established in every State;

Megan's Law of 1996, which mandated that every State provide community notification when dangerous sex offenders are released, was driven by the push from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children;

The PROTECT Act of 2003, which created a national AMBER Alert Program and strengthened law enforcement's ability to punish violent criminals who prey upon children;

And, of course, the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, which created a national sex offender public database. And it's because of that work over the years that that rate is up to 97 percent today.

Now, despite all that's been accomplished, I'm sure there is much more that can be done, should be done. I congratulate the NCMEC for its 25th anniversary. I congratulate it for its work on behalf of so many child recoveries to date.

And let this resolution remind us that there is nothing more important than the safety of our Nation's children, and that the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has done such great work in this regard.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, I am honored to yield to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN), who played an important role in the foundation and formation of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in 1984, as much time as he may consume.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, it is hard to believe that it was 25 years ago that this Congress worked to facilitate the establishment of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

I recall being on the subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee when John Walsh and his wife testified before us. It was at a time when they did not know who had murdered their child.

It was at a time in this country where we specifically prohibited the use of the FBI in attempting to participate in any activities to try and find missing children. We had a statutory delay for any participation by the FBI. There was a lack of coordination that was not only in existence, but was promoted by law at that time.

And I recall, after John Walsh and his wife testified before us, the shrugging of shoulders by some who basically had to tell the Walshes that there was nothing that we could do here on the Federal level.

John Walsh and his wife did not take that as an answer. They spoke to many of us here in the Chamber, but actually those of us on the subcommittee and committee at that time, and challenged us to try and find a way to make it possible that we could have a seamless web between the Federal Government, the State government and local government when the question was a missing child. And the strength and persistence of that couple, combined with others who joined them around the country was extraordinary at that time.

It seems so commonplace now for us to talk about the 25th anniversary of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. It seems so commonplace for us to talk about hundreds of thousands of children being reported missing yearly, and the fact that there was almost a collective shrug of the shoulder at that time saying, it is a terrible tragedy, but there's nothing we can do about it.

It seems so commonplace now that when a child is missing, with all of the various laws that have followed after the creation of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, that almost instantaneously you have law enforcement across the board communicating with one another and creating a mechanism by which there can be the exchange of information and the encouragement of the exchange of information so that we can find these children.

One thing we knew 25 years ago, and it remains the same today, the sooner

you know that a child is missing, the better the chances are of being able to find that child. The sooner you have law enforcement involved, along with the communities, the better the chances are that you will have a successful recovery of that child and a successful reuniting of that family.

So I hope people understand why we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and that it has been the result of thousands upon thousands of people working for this effort.

Had it not been for a single couple, the Walshes, who, out of tragedy, decided to make something positive, had it not been for them coming here to the Congress and insisting that we look at this issue and insisting that there was something that can be done and insisting that just because we used to do it the old way was no reason or no excuse for not trying to do something different, had it not been for them, we would not be celebrating the 25th anniversary, nor would we be celebrating the thousands upon thousands of successful reunitions that have taken place around this country.

So this is a wonderful recognition of the center, but I hope it will also be a tremendous recognition of the contributions made by two wonderful Americans, the Walshes.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, I, again, urge a "yes" vote in support of this important resolution and commend Mr. POE for his sponsorship, as well as Mr. LUNGREN for his important work in the foundation of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 454, recognizing the 25th anniversary of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

In 1979, while on his way to school, 6-year-old Etan Patz disappeared from the streets of New York City. In 1981, 6-year-old Adam Walsh disappeared from a Florida shopping mall. The media attention and search efforts that resulted from these two cases focused the nation's attention on the problem of child abduction and the need for a coordinated effort to address this problem.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, NCMEC, as it is called in acronym, was created by Congress in 1984, through the Missing Children's Assistance Act. NCMEC works in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice and is the nation's resource center and clearinghouse for information on missing and exploited children. Since 1984, NCMEC has assisted law enforcement with more than 154,000 missing child cases, resulting in the recovery of more than 138,000 children.

NCMEC's mission includes helping to prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation; helping to find missing children; and assisting victims of child abduction and sexual exploitation, their families, and the professionals who serve them. NCMEC provides assistance to families and law enforcement agencies in

locating and recovering missing and exploited children, both nationally and internationally.

NCMEC offers many services, including a 24-hour call center. NCMEC's toll-free national hotline, 1-800-THE-LOST, has handled more than 2.3 million calls.

NCMEC also manages a distribution system for missing-child photos; a system of case management and technical assistance for law enforcement and families; training programs for Federal, State and local law enforcement; and programs designed to help stop the sexual exploitation of children.

NCMEC is the only private, non-profit organization that combines these resources to provide support to law enforcement, state clearinghouses, and parents working to find missing children.

I stand in support of this resolution recognizing the 25th Anniversary of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. I ask for my colleagues' support.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, the resolution before the House, H. Res. 454, recognizing the 25th Anniversary of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, is one that obviously brings with it many happy endings for at least 138,000 families.

And while not all of the stories are those happy endings, the center has provided itself as a resource, as a network that has devoted itself to the reconnection of our youth to their families. And so, with that outstanding record and with the concerns for missing children still alive and haunting us as a society, I strongly encourage a "yes" vote on the resolution.

I yield back my remaining time, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 454.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1745

CONGRATULATING AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION ON ITS 70TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. BOCCIERI. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 472) congratulating and saluting the seventieth anniversary of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) and their dedication to general aviation, safety and the important contribution general aviation provides to the United States.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.